I personally and a friend have each been given the run around connecting broadband, most likely because SBC is trying to prevent competitors from signing up customers:

Initially I was denied broadband connectivity. The denials my friend and I recieved are given by two different non-SBC/Pacific Bell companies. My friend was told this denial was because SBC/Pacific Bell was being non-cooperative in allowing the company to use their lines.

Upon denial from Covad, I signed up for SBC broadband and was connected without delay. I am unsure of my friend's resolution.